

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the analysis of a sample comprising:

- extend  
5/4/04  
mcs*
- (a) depositing a continuous film having optical properties and species adsorption properties essentially the same as optical properties and species adsorption properties of bulk material of the continuous film;
  - (b) applying, after deposition of the continuous film, the sample to said deposited continuous film by either adsorption or directly to a surface of said deposited continuous film; and
  - (c) analyzing the sample by matrix-less light desorption/ionization mass spectroscopy, after the sample has been applied to the deposited continuous film.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of organic chemical compositions, inorganic chemical compositions, biochemical compositions, drugs, drug metabolites, cells, cell material, micro-organisms, peptides, polypeptides, proteins, lipids, carbohydrates, nucleic acids, and combinations thereof.

3. (Previously Presented) A method for sample analysis according to claim 2, further comprising obtaining said sample from the group consisting of: a fluidic system, a microfluidic system, a nanofluidic system, a micro chromatographic system, a nano chromatographic system, a high-throughput isolation and preparation system, and combinations thereof.